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COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Stendal-Magdeburg-Haldensleben Area. 50X1-HUM

EVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                      50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT                     

DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 21 October 1953

REFERENCES                     

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     

REMARKS                     

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1. At about 11 a.m. on 2 October 1953, a train of an undetermined number of flatcars and about 10 boxcars was loaded with a Soviet unit at the Stendal railroad station. The unit included about 50 trucks,                      radio truck                      1 sedan, 2 field kitchens, two T-34 tank hulls and an undetermined number of troops. The following shipments passed through Stendal:

At 11:20 a.m. on 2 October. A train with an undetermined number of flatcars with about 40 trucks                      1 jeep, about 5 radio trucks and workshop trucks, and with 12 to 15 boxcars with troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered crimson epaulets, from the direction of Wolmirstedt toward a westerly direction.

At 11:45 a.m. on 2 October. A train with an undetermined number of flatcars with 40 to 50 trucks                      2 SU-76 assault guns, 1 radio truck, 1 jeep, 2 field kitchens, and with about 10 boxcars with troops, from the direction of Wolmirstedt toward a westerly direction.

At about 12:30 p.m. on 2 October, a train with an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 15 to 20 trucks                      about 10 rocket launchers, 1 radio truck, and 1 field kitchen, and with about 6 boxcars carrying troops was seen in Demker, headed toward Stendal. At 1:15 p.m. on 2 October, a train with about 30 T-34/85 tanks was sidetracked in Tangerhütte. About 50 JSU-122s, about 15 SU-249s, 30 to 40 trucks                      and 400 troops were seen in the area of the railroad station. On 2 October, about 300 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and carrying about 30 light machine guns and several trucks                      were entrained in Mählwinkel. 1 At about 3 p.m. on 2 October, a train consisting of an undetermined number of flatcars and about 20 boxcars was sidetracked in Wolmirstedt and loaded with the following equipment: about 40 trucks                      and about 20 trucks carrying about 20 mortars, apparently of 82 mm caliber, several radio trucks and 3 field kitchens. The train had presumably been loaded in Wolmirstedt. 2

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On the afternoon of 2 October, a train consisting of an undetermined number of flatcars carrying about 40 trucks [redacted] about 40 120-mm mortars, 2 radio trucks, and 2 field kitchens, and of about 12 boxcars with troops passed through Biederitz in the direction of Magdeburg. The following loadings were observed in Stendal:

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On the morning of 3 October, 20 to 30 trucks [redacted] about 30 field howitzers, apparently of 152 mm caliber, about 30 full-track prime movers with a chassis similar to that of the SU-76, 2 radio trucks, an undetermined number of jeeps and field kitchens.

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At noon on 3 October, 40 to 50 trucks [redacted] 3 radio trucks, 2 field kitchens, 2 sedans, 2 jeeps and an undetermined number of troops on about 12 boxcars.

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At about 2 p.m. on 3 October, a train carrying 12 x 37-mm AA guns, 20 to 30 trucks [redacted] 2 radio trucks, 1 field kitchen and about 80 troops was observed in Tangerhuetten. On the afternoon of 3 October, about 30 T-34/85 tanks, about 20 trucks, several radio trucks and workshop trucks [redacted] and about 200 troops were entrained in Mahlwinkel.<sup>1</sup> On the afternoon of 3 October, about 8 rocket launchers, 2 T-34 tank hulls, 3 radio trucks, 1 jeep, 4 field kitchens, 50 to 60 trucks [redacted] and about 300 troops and billeting equipment were entrained in Biederitz.

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2. Between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 30 September, a large number of trucks with billeting equipment [redacted]

[redacted] and trucks towing an AT gun from Camp Planken were loaded in Haldensleben. On the afternoon of 30 September, trucks [redacted] with equipment, truck [redacted] with barrels, trucks [redacted] with ammunition, trucks [redacted]

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[redacted] each occupied by 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulettes, sedan [redacted] with officers and trucks [redacted] were seen en route from Haldensleben toward Hillersleben.<sup>2</sup> At 9 a.m. on 1 October, a train of 30 flatcars carrying 10 tanks [redacted] a large number of trucks and sedan [redacted] passed through Haldensleben from the direction of Cebisfelde and proceeded toward Magdeburg. At 12:45 p.m. on 2 October, a train of 30 to 40 cars was loaded with armored scout cars and trucks from the barracks installation in Hillersleben for shipment toward Haldensleben. 3

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1. Comment. Some of the 12 shipments mentioned [redacted] are believed to have been among the about 14 shipments which, [redacted] had been loaded at the abovementioned railroad stations on 1 and 2 October. The motor vehicle [redacted] indicate that all units loaded belonged to the Third Shock Army, most of them probably the IX Mtz Rifle Corps, which returned to the post after completion of the exercises reportedly conducted south of Stendal. Units of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div from Quedlinburg which had also participated in the practices are believed to have also been among the shipments. The train observed in Biederitz en route toward Magdeburg on 2 October may have come from Genthin. The tank [redacted] lead to the assumption that the loading in Biederitz on 2 October was made by units of the 18th Mecc Div. It is interesting that [redacted]

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[redacted] no loadings of units of the 10th Gds Tank Div were determined though elements of the divisions must have gone to Satzborn from Tangerhuetten and Mahlwinkel during the period of observation.

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Motor vehicle [ ] observed with the tank units ready to be loaded at the Tangerhuetten railroad station at about 1:15 p.m. on 2 October, is the only indication that units of the division were entrained there.

2. [ ] Comment. The movements to Haldensleben and toward Millersleben from Camp Planken, also referred to as Camp Huetten, by trucks of the 7th Gds Tank Div and the motor vehicle [ ] of the division identified during loadings in Haldensleben and Wolmirstedt [ ] the division started departing from Letzling Heath after 1 October. [ ]
3. [ ] Comment. Possibly, return movement to Magdeburg of units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div. [ ] the train en route toward Magdeburg on 1 October, however, might also have belonged to the 10th Gds Tank Div. [ ]

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